production, the present oil reserves of India will last for about 22 years. However, each year some additional reserves are added. Therefore, reserves for oil & gas will last for a longer period.

(b) The following steps are being taken to curb the growth rate of consumption of petroleum products in the country;

(i) Conservation of petroleum products through;

— multi-media campaign for creating mass awareness for conservation of petroleum products

— adoption of measures and practices which are conducive to increase fuel efficiency and training programme in the transport sector

— modernisation of boilers, furnaces and other oil operated equipment and promotion of fuel efficient practices

— standardisation of fuel efficient irrigation pump-sets and rectification of existing pump-sets to make them more energy efficient in the agricultural sector

— development and promotion of fuel efficient equipment and appliances like kerosene and LPG stoves in the household sector

— application of fuel efficient technologies.

(ii) Encouraging use of alternative sources of energy including substitution of petroleum products.

Patenting of Indigenous Petroleum Technologies

2568. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have thought of patenting indigenous petroleum technologies;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) and (b) As per CSIR policy, if any R&D work leads to such development where Intellectual Property rights can be secured, patents are filed. Accordingly, ONGC, IOC, CRL and IIP have filed applications for patents in the areas of Petroleum Refining, Petrochemical Intermediates, Catalysis, Products and Industrial & Domestic Appliances usign petroleum fuel, etc.

(c) Does not arise.

Proposal for Piped LPG in Andhra Pradesh

2569. SHRI YERRA NARAYANA-SWAMY:
SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH:
Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering supplying piped gas to various plants, cities etc.;

(b) if so, what is the basic criteria for selecting population centres for arranging piped domestic LPG;

(c) have any centres been selected in Andhra Pradesh;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether Visakhapatnam and Vijayawada would be ideal locations for pilot projects; and

(f) the steps proposed in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) and (b) Based on the criteria of availability of gas and techno-economic feasibility, natural gas is being supplied through pipeline in some parts of Delhi and Mumbai cities through two joint venture companies formed by GAIL in association with M/s Bharat Petroleum Corp. Ltd. and M/s British Gas, UK, respectively.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) and (f) No assessment has been made.

Production of BHT and DBPC by Balmer Lawree and Company

2570. SHRI SATISH CHANDRA SITARAM PRADHAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be